



**Vern's quarry after installing crusher and silo. [after 1944]**

- ① **Quarry:** Digging out soft limestone. Trucks haul lime from the quarry to the crusher.
- Crusher:** Trucks dump lime rocks into crusher for crushing. Lime goes up conveyer to silo.
- Silo:** Lime is stored until needed for customers.
- House:** Weighed lime trucks on scales before leaving. Marjorie weighed and kept books.
- Barn:** First Bantams were built here                      **Plant:** Built in 1944 to build Bantams.



**1929. Wilbur -- Age 20.**

## Bremer County, Iowa

- 1929 **Fred bought 80 acres** between Waverly and Plainfield at \$90/acre. Milk 3-4 cows. Fred 60; Emma 57. Farm located on the "Red Ball" Road (St. Paul to St. Louis). Rae 33, Myrtle 31, Lura 29, Vern 27, Russell 26, Wilbur 20, and Viola 16. Fred planted 5 acres of sweet corn (ears so high, almost had to break stalk to get) Harvested 5 tons of sweet corn per acre. 2-3 tons was normal. Vern rented 80 acres on the same section as Fred (near Charlie Colburn) Russell working in Minneapolis as a shipping clerk for Fordson tractor.
- 1929-31 Russell and Wilbur pick sweet corn in morning. Work in canning co afternoon/eve. Factory got fresh corn by noon. Factory canned all the fresh corn received (11 PM). Kids put cans in boxes; they earned \$0.17 per hour. Vern and Wilbur perform weekly radio program in Waterloo for about a year.
- 1931 Mpls: Wilbur attends Mpls. Business College & McPhail School of Music (voice). St. Paul: Russell and Wilbur perform music in St. Paul. (\$7.50 for a 10 minute act). St. Paul: Noisy audience (600+) wanted dancing girls back. Quieted crowd with saw. Mpls: Russell marries Mary Toth (June 21) Anderson, IN: Myrtle receives Bachelor's of Theology at Anderson College.
- 1932 Vern mails Wilbur penny postcard "You could make some money hauling lime." Mpls: Wilbur quits Mpls. Business College just a few months before graduating. Pay Charlie Colburn 5 cents per ton for lime. Sold lime at \$1 per ton Rent Charlie's Nash truck with wood wheels. Pay Charlie 5 cents per ton-mile. Vern's records: Pay \$3.25/day for labor (10 hour days). Vern marries Marjorie Vossler (December 11) Russell is Church of God minister at Rice Lake, Wisconsin, Grand Rapids, MN.
- 1933 Montevideo, MN: Rae forfeits his farm. **Rae buys 120 acres near Fred** at \$60/acre. Raises beef cattle and milks 2-3 cows. **Vern "buys" quarry** from Charlie Colburn. (Avery tractor used to run shredder.) Vern agrees to pay Charlie a "royalty" of so much a ton. Vern buys new Chevrolet truck. Wilbur moved Rae's equipment & household to Waverly.
- 1938 Vern buys coal crusher (Penn \$300). Big teeth; slow pace. Crush boulders down to 2'. Vern builds silo and sets up permanent crushing mill with coal crusher and hammermill.
- 1940 Montevideo: Myrtle marries D.E. Nelson (Church of God pastor in Montevideo).
- 1948 Rae builds a barn specially designed for feeding cattle. Written up in Des Moines Register.

## Memories of Grandma and Grandpa Schield

Written by Monie Schield Wurdinger in memory of Emma and Fred

We will never forget:

- Homemade bread and butter
- Picking beans, strawberries and sweet corn
- Washing clothes in the old Maytag washer with the gas engine
- The Delco Remy generator in the cellar making the lights go dim when the battery was low
- Bottles of grape juice in the cellar
  
- Grandma's little waddle when she walked
- Homemade apple butter
- Kitchen chairs that slanted to the front
- The radio being on only for a religious program or the farm news
- Listening for the box phone to ring-----a short and 2 long
  
- Big brown sacks of ginger snaps
- Little red cans of Carters Little Liver Pills
- Giving us a jar at night to catch fireflies
- Never hearing a cross word in that home
- The rock garden with that flat stone at the base
  
- Playing in the grove and building forts
- Those funny rough walls in the living and dining room
- Being just a little afraid of Grandpa
- Rhubarb preserves and green tomato pie
- That wonderful sun porch
  
- Those big white sugar cookies
- Grandma's flowers (especially blue morning glories)
- Grandma re-assuring us that thunder was just Uncle Wilbur throwing potatoes down the cellar steps
- The old dilapidated barn
- Having the big turkey and the geese chase you
  
- Going to the gravel road for the mail
- Aunt Myrtle's room upstairs which was the only finished one
- The long scary attic going from the hallway to the big bedroom
- Sleeping with Grandma and having her tell you what all we were going to do the next day
- The little brown ice box on the back porch
  
- The ice man , Mr. Illian, delivering big blocks of ice and letting us have some of the little chips
- The old black cook stove
- Going to bed, literally with the chickens

- Grandma making oatmeal for breakfast
- Going to bed upstairs and hearing the rain on the roof
  
- Homemade strawberry jam
- Digging up potatoes
- The cows "Hi-Step" and "Low-Step"
- The dog, Trixie, who had puppies as often as was possible
- Meat and potatoes at every meal
  
- Never realizing where the puppies and kittens went when Grandpa said "They went west"
- Company coming after church for dinner
- "Oh, Fred" being the strongest words Grandma ever used with Grandpa
- The big dining room table set for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner (for just the grown-ups)
- Turning cartwheels and somersaults on the big grassy yard
  
- Grandma's big bun at the back of her head and Grandpa's snowy white hair
- The big tin dishpan
- Sitting on the lawn after supper in the summer and counting the cars going by on 218
- Grandma's ever present apron holding tomatoes or potatoes, or even little chickens
- The smell of new-mown hay and freshly plowed soil
  
- The little yellow chickens in a box by the cook stove at night
- Grandma's thin, clear little voice singing "Rock of Ages"
- The unconditional love they had for all of us no matter where we roamed
- That little light always shining bright in that window at the end of the lane.



**Viola and Wilbur**